

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TRIBUTE TO MARY K. PODESTA

#### HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary K. Podesta, and those who loved her especially her sons John and Tony.

Known affectionately as "Mama Podesta" to friends, neighbors, and many of us here in Congress, Mary was a fixture in the Washington political scene for more than two decades.

Mary was born in Chicago to Greek immigrant parents. Upon marrying John Podesta Sr., she devoted herself to raising her two sons, John and Tony, and instilling in them a love of country and a commitment to public service which they both demonstrate today.

With the death of her husband nearly 30 years ago, she moved to Washington to be close to John and Tony. Her sons had a history of hosting prominent fundraisers and socials, but it was Mary who turned them into truly family affairs.

Raised Greek, and married to an Italian, Mary was a tremendous cook. Her meatball recipe was as delicious as it was secret. When I visited, she always made sure she had an order for me "to go."

Her astute political advice and encouragement provided even more nourishment than the food she prepared. And though she counted a President, and numerous congressional leaders among her close friends, it was her close relationships with her own family of which she was most proud.

As we pay tribute to Mary, we take comfort in our fond memories of her. I extend my deepest condolences to the many who loved Mary, especially her sons John and Tony, her sister Evelyn, and her three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. I hope it is a comfort to them that so many people are praying for them and mourning their loss at this sad time.

### IN RECOGNITION OF MARK R. BOHN

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mark R. Bohn for his dedication to his colleges and for his 32 years of federal service to his country.

Mark began his federal career back in 1974, where he served in the U.S. Air Force for 3 years. In 1978, he joined the Federal Aviation Administration as an Air Traffic Control Specialist. He worked in various facilities, including Cleveland Hopkins Air Traffic Control Tower, where he ably served for 15 years.

Mark has, throughout the years, shown a strong commitment to and care for his col-

leagues. He was a founding and charter member of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, and has been elected the union facility representative at three different facilities. Additionally, Mark has offered his service on national, regional, and local committees for both the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Air Traffic Controllers Association.

Throughout his career, Mark has received numerous performance awards, letters of commendation, and incentive awards for his great work and effort.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mark R. Bohn, whose 32 years of federal service for this country, as well as tremendous commitment to and care for his colleagues, is a shining example for all of us.

### RECOGNIZING TRAVIS WEAVER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Travis Weaver, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America Troop 249 and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Travis has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the years Travis has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Travis's dedication to his school work at West Platte High School has been excellent. Travis has also contributed significantly to the community, through his planning and organization of a project for the Platte City Parks and Recreation department, which included the addition of a brand new picnic and playground area.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Travis Weaver for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL KEVIN P. MASTIN

#### HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great pride and delight I rise today to honor a highly talented and dedicated airman who has entertained thousands with his skill and continues to serve his country with expertise, commitment, and leadership.

Lieutenant Colonel Kevin P. Mastin is a supremely skilled and decorated command pilot who has spent thousands of hours in the air, many of them twisting, turning and barrel rolling as a United States Air Force Thunderbird. Displaying absolute command over his aircraft, Colonel Mastin has flown several Thunderbird air shows as the Lead Solo, delighting countless onlookers with his precise maneuvers and daring routines. His peerless ability and perfect unison with his fellow Thunderbirds combine for one powerful, awe-inspiring show in the sky.

But Colonel Mastin is much more than a showman. Born in my district in Dansville, NY, Colonel Mastin has led a life of service and deep commitment to his country. After graduating from Dansville Central School in 1981, Colonel Mastin enlisted in the Air Force. He would eventually head off to the West Coast after being assigned to the 92nd Munitions Maintenance Squadron at Fairchild Air Force Base in Washington State. From there, Colonel Mastin attended Washington State University, entering the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps and graduating in 1988 as a commissioned officer. He received his wings a year later and, after more pilot training, left to fly over the skies of Texas at Laughlin Air Force Base as an Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner.

After honing and developing his aircraft skills further, Colonel Mastin became an F-15C Flight Commander at Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho, flying 46 combat missions in Operations Provide Comfort and Southern Watch. Then following an assignment at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida, Colonel Mastin began his run as a Thunderbird, flying in the 2000 and 2001 air show seasons. As a Thunderbird stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada, he flew as the Opposing Solo and then the Lead Solo, showcasing his supreme and expanding aircraft talents.

Moving on from his Thunderbird tour, Colonel Mastin became Director of Operations of the 557th Flying Squadron at the United States Air Force Academy in 2002. In July 2004, Colonel Mastin then assumed duties as Commander of the 479th Operations Support Squadron at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia. Two years later, Colonel Mastin would become Deputy Chief of Air Combat Command's Flight Operations Division at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia, the position he holds today.

Devoted to his country, Colonel Mastin is also a devoted family man. Together with his wife Joni, Colonel Mastin has two beautiful children, daughter Ashley and son Travis.

Thus, Madam Speaker, in recognition of his tremendous military career, his more than 4,200 flying hours, his esteemed military decorations, his sense of family and his service to the United States of America, I ask that this Honorable Body join me in honoring Thunderbird Pilot and Dansville, New York native, Lieutenant Colonel Kevin P. Mastin.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GEORGE  
BECKER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of George Becker, a man who was an activist, a respected union organizer and a tireless champion that protected worker's rights.

George Becker was the sixth international president of the United Steelworkers. For 7 years George provided a booming voice that expressed the frustrations and concerns of the steelworkers, while demanding that they be treated with dignity and decency. He sought to unite the workers by educating them, and launched a program aimed at involving the workers in addressing their interests to politicians.

When his brothers and sisters faced job insecurity, George courageously fought for their rights. The campaign by George and the union workers was victorious, and showed Americans that a union still had the ability to protect the rights of members. He believed that only a union could protect the working class, a sentiment he expressed after visiting the workers of many non-unionized corporations.

George's concern for the mental and physical well-being of union workers led to the proposal of Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) safety standards for those exposed to lead and arsenic. Because of his endless work on implementing OSHA safety standards, workers whose health was affected by their job would not suffer loss of pay when taking time off.

George died February 3rd, 2007 after a long battle with cancer. He is survived by his loving wife, Jane; his wonderful sons, George, Greg and Matthew; his ten grandchildren; his great grandchildren and his sister Jacqueline Straus.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the memory of George Becker, a major proponent for worker's rights in the industrial workforce.

RECOGNIZING TYLER R. RUOFF  
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF  
EAGLE SCOUT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Ruoff, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 60, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler R. Ruoff for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM L. ROSS

**HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great appreciation and delight I rise today to honor a respected and dedicated legislator, educator and community member who for more than 50 years continues to serve his hometown of Wheatfield, New York.

Niagara County Legislator William L. Ross has led a life deeply connected and committed to Niagara; the place where he was born and raised, where he became an educator and a mentor, and where he is now a respected and effective leader.

Through his distinguished professional career, his athletic talent and his spirit to make his community a better place, Bill Ross has left a lasting mark since graduating from the Niagara Falls School System. After graduation, Mr. Ross took a football scholarship to Michigan State University where he went on to win a National Championship in 1952 and play in the esteemed Rose Bowl game in 1954.

After serving as an R.O.T.C. Officer after college, Bill would take his football prowess, military discipline and love of education back to Niagara County. In 1956, Bill began a career in education that would span 47 years and shape a countless number of young lives in Wheatfield. Bill became the first football coach at Niagara Wheatfield in 1958, and in 1977 became the Director of Physical Education, athletics and recreation of the Niagara Wheatfield School District. Both in the classroom and on the field, Bill was devoted to teaching and improving the youth of Niagara County, believing in the importance of a well-rounded education and the duty of schools to not only help produce good students, but good citizens.

That sense of dedication and service culminated when Bill Ross was elected to represent his Town of Wheatfield in the Niagara County Legislature. Twice elected Chairman, first in 1989 and again in 2004, Bill, through it all, has been an insightful and vital leader for Niagara County. In times of tremendous challenges for his town and his region, Bill has been strong and steady, making his home a better place. To this day, Bill serves his constituents and his neighbors with skill and tremendous care, earning respect as he has moved his community forward.

Thus, Madam Speaker, in recognition of his more than 50 years of serving the Niagara region, as an educator, an administrator, a legislator, a leader and a neighbor, I ask that this Honorable Body join me in honoring Mr. William L. Ross.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OHIO  
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD'S 112TH  
ENGINEER BATTALION

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Ohio Army National Guard's 112th Engineer Battalion, and to cele-

brate the commitment of this patriotic group of individuals that has defended our country valiantly.

The Ohio Army National Guard's 112th Engineer Battalion is one of the oldest regiments in the Nation. It is also the most decorated military organization in the State of Ohio. During the American Civil War, the Ohio National Guard played a crucial role in the watershed defeat of Morgan and his Confederate cavalry. During World War I and World War II the 112th Engineer Battalion was deployed overseas and was later regarded as being one of the "most well disciplined and highly competent" engineer units.

Ever humble about their job, the 112th, when deployed to support an Air Force unit, sent tokens of appreciation to those that offered assistance during the Battalion's deployment. The 112th Engineer Battalion unit exemplifies the honor that comes to mind when looking toward the past, present, and future of the Ohio Army National Guard.

The courage of the Ohio Army National Guard's 112th Engineer Battalion does not merely extend to matters abroad. When disaster shook the South, the 112th Engineer's Battalion swiftly acted to help the victims of Hurricane Rita. This unit was and is always ready to help when needed. When called to help their brothers and sisters fight the war on terrorism, the 112th Engineer Battalion exemplified the National Guard mantra to "Respond when called and be ready." The never waning support and readiness to help has made the 112th Engineer Unit the pride of their community.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Ohio National Guard's 112th Engineer Battalion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, March 15, 2007, I was unable to attend votes due to illness.

Were I present, I would have voted in the following manner: (1) H. Res. 242—providing for the consideration of H.R. 1362, Accountability in Contracting Act—"yea"; (2) On motion to recommit H.R. 1362 with instructions—"nay"; (3) H.R. 1362—The Accountability in Contracting Act—"aye."

HONORING JUDGE ROBERT M.  
STEPTOE

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to respectfully request that my colleagues here in the House of Representatives join me in congratulating Robert M. Steptoe for being named the 2007 Distinguished Citizen by the Shenandoah Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Born on May 15, 1920 in Clarksburg, WV, Robert M. Steptoe has spent his entire life in

service to his family, community, and country. He and his wife, Sarah, will soon celebrate 65 years of marriage and are the proud parents of 4 children, Robert, Philip, Sally, and James. They also have 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren with one on the way.

He served his country faithfully during World War II in the United States Navy in both Europe and the Pacific, attaining the rank of lieutenant commander. His long list of public service also includes a stint as assistant prosecuting attorney for Berkeley County, four terms in the West Virginia House of Delegates, and two terms in the West Virginia State Senate. The Honorable Judge Robert M. Steptoe also served on the West Virginia Court of Claims from 1989 to 2001. In addition, Mr. Steptoe served as chairman of the board for Peoples National Bank for several decades and has been an active member of Trinity Episcopal Church since 1949.

Throughout his life, Robert Steptoe has been an active supporter of the Boy Scouts of America. As a youngster, he was a Boy Scout and all four of his children followed in his footsteps as Scouts with his wife, Sarah, serving as den mother. His contribution to Scouting will always be appreciated and I am pleased to see that he is being recognized for his lifelong service to his community.

In closing, I want to thank my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives for joining me in recognizing Mr. Robert M. Steptoe as the 2007 Distinguished Citizen of the Shenandoah Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF JAMES BROWN

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifelong achievements of the Godfather of Soul, James Joseph Brown, who changed American music forever. Over his more than five-decade-long career, Mr. Brown affected and evolved countless music genres while leaving his enduring signature style and grace for everyone to admire.

Born in rural South Carolina during the Great Depression, Mr. Brown learned very quickly the value of hard work and dedication, from picking cotton to shining shoes to washing dishes. A self-taught musician and performer, Mr. Brown arrived on the music scene in 1955 and soon started releasing hit records. Mr. Brown's influence was not isolated to merely music, but extended into local communities by sponsoring youth programs, investing in African American businesses, and speaking at high schools across the country. Throughout the 1960's, Mr. Brown was not only a frequent name atop the music charts by releasing singles like "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag" and "I Got You (I Feel Good)," but also an outspoken advocate for the Civil Rights movement.

Mr. Brown's trendsetting stage performances and groundbreaking musical innovations are just a few of the many legacies he has left behind. From his Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction in 1968 to being a 2003 Kennedy Center Honoree, Mr. Brown not only

has paved the way for numerous artists, but also has left a lasting impact on music that is still being felt today.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Hardest Working Man in Show Business, James Brown, whose inspiration and genius will continue to touch the lives of generations to come.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF WINNIE DOSS

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—Mrs. Winnie Martha Doss's 100th birthday. Mrs. Doss will gather with her friends and family to mark the occasion on March 17, 2007.

Mrs. Doss currently resides in the Jacksonville Health and Rehabilitation Center in Jacksonville, Alabama. Mrs. Doss spent 30 years working at Avondale Textile Mills. She has four children, 12 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and 22 great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Doss spends her time working on word search puzzles and crocheting. She enjoys receiving cards and uses them to decorate the walls of her room.

I salute this remarkable woman for her long life, and dedication to family.

#### MARKING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, marking Women's History Month, I would like to commemorate the life of a woman in our district, Joyce Snow Feather Mahaney. Though she passed away last year, her memory and her spirit continue. She is truly a woman who made a difference, and whose efforts echo beyond her lifetime.

The great-great-granddaughter to Chief Kaishpa Gourneau, great-great-granddaughter to Chief Sasswain, Henry Poitra and great-great-great-great-granddaughter to Chief Gaytay Manomin (Old Wild Rice), a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, Joyce Mahaney grew up on the Turtle Mount Reservation in Belcourt, North Dakota. Her Indian name Snow Feather (Koonea Meguen) was given to her by her great-grandmother, Cecelia Malaterre. A Naming Ceremony was done by her adopted father, Francis Eagle Heart Cree of Turtle Mountain, who is also the local spiritual leader and medicine man in the area.

She attended the Ojibwe Indian School, Turtle Mountain Community High School, and Minot State University where she received a degree in Education. She also attended the American Indian Training Institute in Albuquerque, New Mexico and the University of Toledo. She came to Ohio in the 1970s following her marriage to Toledo native, Russell Mahaney. They raised two children.

In 1988, Joyce Snow Feather Mahaney founded the Toledo-based American Indian Intertribal Association. The purpose of the organization is to preserve and showcase American Indian culture through community activities. Her incredible leadership has developed the Association as a premiere showcase of Native American culture, language, and spirit. Several hundred Native Americans participate in the organization's ongoing activities such as: The Toledo Pow Wow, cultural programs, and the annual summer solstice ceremony at the site of the Battle of Fallen Timbers of 1794.

An adult education teacher, she was also Executive Secretary at the Toledo Museum of Art, served as executive director of the Cleveland Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program, and director of the Eagle Wing Program in Toledo and other Native American programs in northern Ohio.

Although she spent the last three decades of her life in Ohio, Joyce Snow Feather Mahaney has maintained her deep roots in the Turtle Mountain area, visiting family and friends and offering presentations in the community which captured the spirit of the indigenous people, the sacred land of her ancestors and the rich cultural heritage of the Plains Ojibwe.

An award-winning poet, she has written and self-published poetry books, *Prairie Winds* and *Spirit of Dakota*. In fact, the threads of this Ojibwe Prayer were woven deep into the fabric of the life of Joyce Snow Feather Mahaney, and describe her legacy most eloquently.

#### OJIBWE PRAYER

Oh Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds And whose breath gives life to everyone, Hear me.

I come to you as one of your many children; I am weak .... I am small.... I need your wisdom and your strength.

Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunsets Make my hands respect the things you have made.

And make my ears sharp so I may hear your voice.

Make me wise, so that I may understand what you have taught my people and The lessons you have hidden in each leaf and each rock.

I ask for wisdom and strength Not to be superior to my brothers, but to be able to fight my greatest enemy, myself.

Make me ever ready to come before you with clean hands and a straight eye.

So as life fades away as a fading sunset.

My spirit may come to you without shame.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF SERBIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY "VUK STEFANOVIC KARADZICH"

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Serbian National University "Vuk Stefanovic Karadzich", which is affiliated with the Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. Founded in 1987, this prestigious university has dedicated itself to promoting and educating the public on Serbian culture and history.

Among its many achievements, Serbian National University established an endowment fund at The Ohio State University's Hilander Room, which provides an environment for students to advance the language, heritage, and traditions of the Serbian people. In addition, the University supports the Serbian Orthodox Church, Cleveland Institute of Music and similar schools in Serbia.

The Serbian National University is dedicated to and inspired by the works and achievements of Vuk Stefanovic Karadzich. During the 18th and 19th Century, Vuk Karadzich founded the modern Serbian language and developed the Serbian Cyrillic alphabet. Vuk Karadzich received a degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Jena, Germany and was knighted by the country of Russia. One of the many legacies of Vuk Karadzich that the Serbian National University carries on today is the mission of bridging the gap between Serbian and American cultures.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Serbian National University "Vuk Stefanovic Karadzich" for all the amazing contributions they have made to the advancement of Serbian and American culture. May the good work that they have done endure into the future.

#### TRIBUTE TO MERV GRIFFIN

#### HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a truly outstanding gentleman, Merv Griffin. Merv is a distinguished entertainer and business entrepreneur, as well as a man who is deeply committed to helping others.

Merv is a special friend of the Louis Warschaw Prostate Cancer Center and gives generously of his time and energy to fight this disease. As a prostate cancer survivor, he is deeply aware of the importance of medical research being done by the Center which was established by the Warschaw Family at Cedar Sinai Medical Center in memory of Louis, their beloved husband and father.

Merv is one of the world's great performers. He began his distinguished career as a singer at 19, and shortly thereafter formed his own record label, Panda Records. His self-released album "Songs by Merv Griffin" was the first American album recorded on magnetic tape. Freddy Martin, impressed with Merv's talent, asked him to tour with his orchestra. Four years later, Merv started as a solo performer, scoring a number one hit with "I've Got a Lovely Bunch of Coconuts."

In 1958 Merv launched his brilliant television career as host of the game shows "Play your Hunch" and "Keep Talking." In 1963, he hosted and produced "Word for Word." The following year, he produced the incredibly successful "Jeopardy" and followed that with "Wheel of Fortune." These two shows established Merv as a television legend.

Merv was also much admired and respected as a television talk show host. Among his most interesting and controversial guests were journalists Adele Rogers St. John, futurist Buckminster Fuller, writer Norman Mailer, and philosopher Bertrand Russell.

In addition to his show business success, Merv is a real estate magnate with prestigious

properties in Beverly Hills, Palm Springs, Atlantic City and Scottsdale. He raises thoroughbred racehorses on his ranch in Carmel, CA and owns St. Clerans Manor, an 18th century estate, near Galway, Ireland.

In 2001, Merv returned to singing with the release of the album "It's Like a Dream," and this year his production company began pre-production on a new syndicated game show, "Let's Play Crossword," which is expected to air in September.

I am proud to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Merv Griffin for his lifetime of extraordinary accomplishments, and in expressing our appreciation for his support of the Louis Warschaw Prostate Cancer Center.

#### HONORING MICHAEL HOWE

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Michael Howe. Mike served as the president of the East Bay Community Foundation (EBCF) in Oakland from 1993 until 2006. Throughout his career, Mike has been known for his tireless work on behalf of the East Bay community. This year Mike, who currently serves as the EBCF president emeritus, celebrates his retirement after more than a decade of unparalleled service to that organization, and many more to the 9th Congressional District.

Mike holds a B.A. in sociology from the University of San Francisco, as well as an M.A. and an ABD in sociology from the University of California, Davis. Before joining the EBCF, Mike was the senior planning and evaluation officer for the Marin Community Foundation from 1986 until 1993. Prior to that, he was a professor of Sociology and founding dean of the College of Professional Studies at the University of San Francisco, where he was also tenured as an associate professor.

Mike came to the East Bay Community Foundation in 1993. Under his leadership, the EBCF evolved from a small grant-making organization into one of the top 50 community foundations in the country. Mike's work was central to the EBCF's transformation into an organization that is known for leading change-making initiatives that successfully solve community problems. Working with government agencies, non-profit organizations, business leaders and civic groups, Mike has sought to improve after-school programs for youth; prevent street crime and violence; provide arts education; enhance land-use planning to incorporate features for sustainable communities; and expand community philanthropy. Mike has attracted new expertise and funding to the EBCF, which now makes grants to more than 1,000 non-profit organizations, primarily in the East Bay. His efforts have made the EBCF a world-class institution for community leadership and social change, and have touched countless lives here in the 9th congressional District and beyond.

In addition to his stellar work leading the EBCF, Mike has been and continues to be heavily involved in a number of other boards and organizations here in the Bay Area. He serves on the boards of organizations such as the Institute for Community Peace; Northern

California Grantmakers; the John Gardener Center at Stanford University, the Coalition of Community Foundations for Youth; and the Richmond Children's Foundation.

Today the friends, family and colleagues of Mike Howe have come together to celebrate not only his retirement, but also his legacy of service, and his permanent and positive impact on our community. On this very special day, I join all of them in thanking and saluting Mike for his profound contributions to California's 9th Congressional district, our country and our world.

#### IN HONOR OF THE ARC OF WARREN COUNTY'S NEWEST SERVICE TO NORTHWEST NEW JERSEY'S DISABLED COMMUNITY

#### HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today, the Arc of Warren County, New Jersey will break ground on their newest group home at Camp Warren. The Arc has long presented a wide array of services to individuals with developmental disabilities throughout this corner of Northwest New Jersey. They are now expanding into residential services with this barrier-free home for six adults, which they hope to have open by the end of the year.

The Arc of Warren County was founded more than 50 years ago by parents, educators, and others who wanted to meet the needs of children with developmental disabilities in a comprehensive way. It is part of a national network that serves more than 3 million people across the country every year. The more than 1,000 people that the Warren County chapter serves each year receive quality services ranging from residential to recreation to advocacy.

Arc staff and volunteers not only help the disabled individuals, but also their families. And, in the process, they provide a great service to the community at large. The Arc helps these individuals live more self-sufficiently and blend seamlessly into the community around them. And, the tremendous support they get from people of all walks of life throughout Warren County speaks volumes as to their success.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievement of the University of North Texas basketball team on defeating Arkansas State University, by a score of 83-75, to win the school's first ever Sunbelt Conference title.

The Mean Green's 23 wins this season are the most in team history. Furthermore, this most recent win clinched North Texas a spot in the prestigious NCAA Tournament for the first time since the 1987-88 season.

Senior Calvin Watson, who had 24 points and six 3-pointers, was named the Sunbelt Conference Tournament's Most Outstanding Player. Guard Ben Bell was also named to the all-tournament team.

This victory was a combined effort and would not have been possible if it was not for the incredible work ethic demonstrated by these athletes and coaches. I extend my sincere congratulations to Head Coach Johnny Jones, University of North Texas President Gretchen M. Bataille, as well as the members of the UNT Men's Basketball Team.

I am proud of these young men—their victory in Sunbelt Conference and their efforts during the NCAA tournament. Not only am I honored to serve as their U.S. Representative, but I am proud to be a University of North Texas alumnus.

#### THE UNFORTUNATE TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF CHINA'S ANTI- SECESSION LAW

#### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, two years ago, China passed its anti-secession law, codifying its use of force against Taiwan. Despite Taiwan's pleas for friendship and worldwide condemnation of the legislation, China has continued its military buildup along the coast of Taiwan and heightened its rhetoric against the people of Taiwan. The 23 million people of Taiwan feel insecure and worry about present or future military confrontations in the Taiwan Strait.

Even more ominously, China recently successfully tested an anti-satellite missile, threatening the surveillance satellites of India, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, the United States, Europe and Russia. China's development of space-based technology will seriously threaten U.S. military operations and world peace. This action, when combined with other actions by the PRC, should raise serious concerns among my colleagues about future moves that China may conduct.

For the sake of world peace, I urge my colleagues to continue to speak out against the Chinese military buildup. China's military intimidations against Taiwan pose a serious threat to the well-being of the peaceful 23 million people that reside in Democratic Taiwan. It is in our best interests for people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait to live in peace and any military action against Taiwan will lead to chaos and destruction for many countries in the region. As a start to maintaining this critical peace on both sides of the Taiwan Strait, China should rescind its anti-secession legislation now. This legislation should have never been adopted by the Chinese, and therefore I ask for its immediate repeal.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HATCH ACT RE- FORM ACT OF 2007

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Hatch Act Reform Act of 2007 to eliminate discriminatory treatment of the District of Columbia which still falls under the federal Hatch Act, as it did before the Congress made the District an independent jurisdiction that today enacts its own local laws. This bill would retain federal Hatch Act authority concerning prohibited partisan and political activity that applies to every state upon receipt of federal funds or functions, and importantly, would require the District to enact its own local version of the Hatch Act barring similar local violations, to become effective. This bill, of course, would automatically be held over for congressional review as required by the Home Rule Act. In any case, local Hatch Act violations in the District are rare, but the District needs its own Hatch Act to fully account and be responsible for local violations, with which only a local, objective body would be most familiar.

This bill will leave in place the federal Hatch Act restrictions that apply to other jurisdictions on the use of official authority, specifically as it relates to elections; the solicitation, acceptance, or receiving of political campaign contributions; the prohibitions on running for public office in partisan elections; and the use of on-duty time and resources to engage in partisan campaign activity where federal funds or responsibilities are involved. My bill would remove only the federal Hatch Act jurisdiction that applies solely to the District of Columbia and would require the District to have its own local Hatch Act, like every other jurisdiction, instead of requiring the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and its Special Counsel to devote staff time and other resources on investigation, fact-finding and judgment of unfamiliar local matters.

Indeed, the OPM has asked for the federal guidance my bill offers. In recent cases, OPM cited an ANC commissioner (Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner) for violations of the Hatch Act when he ran for higher office, even though ANC commissioners are "elected officials" under local laws. The application of the Hatch Act to ANC commissioners has been selectively enforced by OPM. For example, recently OPM filed cases charging Hatch Act violations against an ANC commissioner running for the D.C. Council but did not file when several members of the current City Council ran for the Council from positions as ANC commissioners. The present law results in possible violation of the federal Hatch Act while leaving OPM with local responsibility that does not implicate its federal jurisdiction.

The House recognized that the present federal Hatch Act jurisdiction over the District was inappropriate and obsolete by removing this federal responsibility several years ago, but the Senate failed to act. The District should bear this local responsibility. My bill will eliminate the double indignity of placing a local burden on the federal government and depriving the District of a responsibility, which only local jurisdictions familiar with local laws can be expected to handle responsibly.

The Hatch Reform Act is the third in the "Free and Equal D.C." series of bills that I have introduced to eliminate anti-Home Rule or redundant bills that deprive the city of equal treatment and recognition as an independent self-governing jurisdiction.

#### HONORING BRONZE STAR RECIPIENT PAUL BAKER

#### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Mr. Paul Baker, recipient of the prestigious Bronze Star Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device in recognition of his actions on February 19, 1945 at Iwo Jima.

The Battle of Iwo Jima was a crucial victory in World War II against the Japanese. On the morning of February 19th, 1945, the first of 70,000 Marines and Sailors, including Pharmacist's Mate First Class Paul Baker, U.S. Navy, landed on Iwo Jima. By the end of the battle 35 days later, the Allies were victorious, but suffered over 25,000 casualties, including over 5,000 deaths.

On that initial morning of the invasion, Petty Officer Paul Baker, was among the first infantry troops to land on the island. Baker was rendered unconscious by a Japanese artillery shell that struck his ship. Upon regaining consciousness, despite his injuries and without regard for his own safety, Baker began treating multiple injured Marines, refusing medical treatment for his own injuries to save the lives of his fallen comrades. Only after all of the wounded Marines had been transferred to the medical personnel on the USS *Sanborn*, did Petty Officer Baker allow himself to be treated.

Petty Officer Baker displayed the highest level of dedication and selflessness by his courageous actions that day. He is a shining example of the heroism and valor that was displayed by so many of our troops during World War II. On Friday, March 23rd Secretary of the Navy Donald Winter will personally present Mr. Baker with this Bronze Star with Combat "V" at a ceremony in Irondequoit, New York. I am proud to use this opportunity to publicly recognize Mr. Baker and to congratulate him and his family on this long overdue recognition.

#### A TRIBUTE TO LILIAN KAWARATANI

#### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Lilian Kawaratani, of Monterey Park, California. Each year in March, in recognition of Women's History Month, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women.

Lilian was born in Honolulu, Hawaii where she was raised. She enrolled at the University of Hawaii. After completing the Fifth Year Program for Teachers, Lilian left Hawaii for New York where she attended Columbia University Teachers College and received her M.A. in

Education. In 1980, Mrs. Kawaratani received her Adult Education Designated Subjects Credential from the University of California State College.

Mrs. Kawaratani began her career teaching at Barber's Point Elementary School in Hawaii. Upon graduation from Columbia Teacher's College, Lilian moved to Monterey Park and began teaching at Euclid Ave. Elementary School in East Los Angeles. After taking time off to raise her children, Lilian returned to teaching for the Alhambra School District's Adult Education ESL program until she retired in 1999.

Lilian has demonstrated a strong commitment to community service. Lilian was a Board Member and Coordinator for the United Methodist Pre-School's Mother Helpers Program. She has held various positions for the PTA, served on the GATE Advisory Board, and volunteered as a Brownie and Girl Scout Leader. Mrs. Kawaratani has also held various offices at the California Council of Adult Education, where in 1988 she was awarded the CALCO Award for Excellence in Teaching. Lilian also serves as the Membership Chair for the Friends of Monterey Park Library Board.

Most notably, Lilian is admired for her volunteer work with the Monterey Park Library's LAMP (Literacy for All of Monterey Park) Citizenship Classes. Following her retirement, Lilian was invited to help teach Citizenship Classes for the library for two hours per week. Lilian's passion for teaching was made apparent as she spent up to eight hours a day at the library and often met one-on-one with adult learners to further prepare them for their citizenship tests and interviews. Her efforts have directly helped 50 to 100 students annually become proud new American citizens. As Lilian enters her eighth year of teaching for LAMP, she has seen over 700 students attain U.S. Citizenship and has devoted thousands of hours of service.

In addition to her many professional and personal accomplishments, Mrs. Kawaratani is a wife and mother of four children and enjoys spending time with her grandchildren.

Mrs. Kawaratani's devotion to her career and her long-time commitment to the prosperity of our community serves as a true inspiration to us all. I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Lilian Kawaratani.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN CHACON, SR.

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor and remember a great community activist, role model, loving father, husband, and grandfather, John Chacon, Sr.

John was born in El Paso, Texas, on July 6, 1935, but he called California home, as he resided in Ventura County for over 63 years.

John graduated from Oxnard High School in 1955. In 1957, John married the love of his life, Frances "Pancha" Castro, with whom he shared 50 years of happy marriage.

Professionally, John worked over 25 years for W.B. Post and Nick Wargo Construction Companies. He was a lead paving foreman for

19 of those 25 years. At the age of 52 John retired, but he remained active in the community, particularly with his labor union. He was an active member of Laborers Local 585 for 46 years.

John's accomplishments in the community are too many to list here, but some of his most notable include: membership in Los Compadres del Rio, membership in the Rio Mesa High School Boosters Club, and a founding, charter membership in the Mexican-American Golf Association.

John's passions included golfing, gardening, camping at Lake Cachuma, backyard barbecues with family and friends, and listening to mariachi music.

John was well-known throughout the community for cooking his famous "tripas" and his secret salsa recipe. He made friends everywhere he went, and could never go anywhere in the community without someone recognizing him.

On March 4, 2007, John passed away from a sudden illness. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Frances; son, John Jr.; daughters, Rosemary and Barbara; grandchildren, Jennifer, Vincent, Francesca and Analisa; and his four sisters.

Let us pay tribute to John for the man he was and the example he set for all of us to follow. His dedication to family and friends, and his love for his community was evidenced in all that he did.

Although he is no longer with us, John's legacy and spirit will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he has touched.

Madam Speaker, let us pay our respects to John Chacon, Sr. He will always have a place in our hearts for everything he gave to his loved ones and community.

#### HONORING THE OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE OF WENDY MILLER

#### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wendy Miller of Jamison, Pennsylvania for her dedication to our soldiers overseas. Her efforts have brought hope to many soldiers serving in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as here at home.

For the past three years, Ms. Miller, working through the program Anysoldier, has collected various supplies, clothes, and treats from family, friends, and neighbors. Each year she collects a thousand homemade valentines and hundreds of homemade cards and letters from area children. She then ships the packages to the units requesting supplies on anysoldier.com.

Ms. Miller has shipped 130 boxes already, and plans to ship another 100 in the next month. She has taken the initiative to organize volunteers in four other neighborhoods to help collect the donations. The project has been so successful that she plans to send at least 500 boxes by the end of the year.

Her hard work has not gone unappreciated. In fact, Madam Speaker, Ms. Miller has received letters from soldiers, thanking her for the supplies, for the hope each shipment gives

them, and for the reminder that they are not forgotten. The generosity of the hundreds of residents who participate in this project is overwhelming, and the devotion of Ms. Miller is incredible.

One letter of thanks from a soldier serving in Afghanistan reads "Your care package got our soldiers smiling after a long day." Madam Speaker, as a veteran of the Iraq war, I rise today on behalf of American soldiers to thank Wendy Miller and her neighbors for their unending dedication and generosity.

#### IN THE GAME OF LIFE

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in tribute of slain Marine Jimmy Regan, Albert Carey Caswell, United States Capitol Tour Guide, penned the following poem:

"In the game of life,  
There's only what's wrong or right!  
For there are only the very few, who shall so  
shine there so who . . . are so very  
bright!

"For only one thing so counts,  
For only one score so adds up, that which so  
amounts . . .  
For it's all about what we've so said and  
done, and what is really true . . . as so  
to be won!

"For there are no second chances!  
In these our short minutes, upon this earth  
. . . as our time here so advances . . .  
Our goal! All in what we've said and done, for  
whom we've so bled . . . to take our  
valiant stances!

"Whether, upon fields of green . . .  
Or on oh so heroic battlefields of honor  
seen . . .

Jimmy, was always the one! A brave heart!  
As a leader of men, time and time  
again!

"A Marine's Marine,  
A brave heart who once so lived, who so gallantly  
chose to give . . .  
Facing death, with only his magnificent  
courage left . . . his heart of a lion  
seen could not be checked!

"Fast breaking in the game of life, writing  
his book of sacrifice . . .  
To this our world he so gave, but never took  
. . . no mistaking around him the earth  
so shook!

Strength in Honor . . . was his great life's  
measure, in each and every step he ever  
took!

"For so few of us shall ever be such a treasure,  
For so few of us such magnificence, as a hero  
to their Country shall be so measured!  
Such Splendid Splendor, was Jimmy . . .  
who to our Lord's heart brought such  
pleasure!

"For in the minutes and the hours,  
Of our lives upon this earth we give now,  
upon all others which so shower!  
Are our gifts of Freedom and Peace, in our  
Lord's eye's hold such power!

"To Make a Difference With It All,  
To be a champion in life! As what Jimmy so  
lived for and died, as for what he saw!  
Could we, would we . . . ever such the  
strength so find, to stand as tall as him  
in time?

"In the game of life,

Every moment is important, and so sacred  
until our final nights!

For such valor and sacrifice . . . our Lord  
God, Jimmy you up to Heaven has  
called!

"For life is not a game,  
As each day and night, are so precious the  
moments we're alive to claim.  
And Freedom is not free, only bought and  
paid for by America's greatest of all  
names!"

In honor of a Real American Hero, Jimmy  
Regan . . . God Bless you, my Son, and may  
your family find peace!

# INTRODUCING THE STOP TUBERCULOSIS NOW ACT OF 2007

## HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to  
announce the introduction of the Stop Tuberculosis  
Now Act of 2007.

As a member of the House Foreign Affairs  
Committee, I know all too well how necessary  
comprehensive international tuberculosis control  
is. It is remarkable in this day and age,  
with treatment available, that TB is the biggest  
infectious killer of young women in the world.  
In fact, TB kills more women than all causes  
of maternal mortality. As you know, TB is also  
the leading killer of people with AIDS. TB ac-  
counts for more than one quarter of all pre-  
ventable adult deaths in developing countries.

I strongly believe that the global community,  
with the United States in the lead, must do  
more to adequately address this disease by  
investing in quality TB control programs, using  
the groundbreaking Global Plan to Stop TB as  
a guide. It is for that reason that I am intro-  
ducing the Stop TB Now Act which will make  
the appropriate investments towards achieving  
the goals of the Global Plan. My bill calls for  
a U.S. investment of \$400 million for inter-  
national TB control in FY08 and \$550 million  
in FY09.

I believe that if we don't make bold—and  
wise—investments in international TB control,  
not only will we fail to save millions of lives  
and miss out on the many accompanying ben-  
efits of controlling this killer, but also that this  
disease will become far more difficult and  
costly to treat.

Extremely Drug Resistant TB highlights this  
danger. It has been found on six continents, is  
a growing epidemic in southern Africa, and is  
already reported to be here in the United  
States. Regular (non drug-resistant) TB is cur-  
able with drugs that cost just \$16 in most de-  
veloping countries. Cases of drug-resistant  
TB, however, can cost thousands of dollars to  
cure, with treatment that is far more difficult  
for patients and practitioners. Drug-resistant TB  
is a manmade problem and is caused by poor  
TB treatment. We have the power to prevent  
drug-resistant TB and the power to treat and  
control regular TB, and yet we have not cho-  
sen to do so.

Madam Speaker, the adoption of the Stop  
TB Now Act of 2007 would have a profound  
effect on our efforts to improve global tuber-  
culosis control. I ask my colleagues to cospon-  
sor this bill today.

## HONORING WAYNE HALE

### HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, it is my  
distinct honor to recognize Mr. Wayne Hale,  
Manager of the Space Shuttle Program at the  
NASA Johnson Space Center in Texas's 22nd  
Congressional District, for winning the 2007  
National Air and Space Museum Trophy for  
Current Achievement. Wayne was honored on  
March 7, 2007 for the Shuttle's STS-121 mis-  
sion, which along with subsequent Shuttle  
flights got the Shuttle program back on track  
after the tragic *Columbia* loss.

For decades, America's space program has  
represented our greatest advances in science  
and technological innovation. Individuals like  
Wayne Hale are why NASA remains the global  
leader in expanding space exploration. Such  
ambitions are essential to growing our  
economy. They are essential to the technology  
used in all facets of everyday life. They are  
essential to inspiring our Nation's youth to go  
into math and science fields. And they are es-  
sential to fulfill the American spirit that our for-  
bears passed on to us, to seek out and ex-  
plore new frontiers.

The National Air and Space Museum trophy  
recognizes such achievements involving the  
management or execution of a scientific or  
technological project, a distinguished career of  
service in air and space technology, or a sig-  
nificant contribution in chronicling the history  
of air and space technology. Wayne Hale cer-  
tainly fits this bill and brings great distinction to  
this award.

My congratulations to Wayne and his fine  
team of colleagues and professionals at  
NASA. Wayne's dedication to furthering our  
reach and exploration into space inspires our  
best and brightest to continue the most excit-  
ing endeavors in human history.

## HONORING THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE DEMO- CRATS

### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.  
Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate  
the University of Pennsylvania Democrats for  
being named the "2006 Chapter of the Year"  
by the Pennsylvania Federation of College  
Democrats.

For those who say all young people are ap-  
athetic, I say, look at the Penn Democrats.  
They are inspiring proof to the contrary. Their  
hard work and dedication make them admi-  
rable examples—models not just to their fellow  
students or to other Democrats, but to all of us  
who seek to improve our communities through  
civic engagement and public service.

The Penn Democrats are to be commended  
for their continued outward focus. Not content  
to exist merely as a self-contained committee  
of like-minded people, they maintain an active  
presence on the University of Pennsylvania  
campus and work to encourage other students  
to become politically active. When voter turn-

out on campus grew by 280 percent between  
the 2000 and 2004 elections, the increase was  
due in large part to the efforts of the Penn  
Democrats, who ran a nonpartisan voter reg-  
istration drive and successfully lobbied the  
City of Philadelphia to create six additional  
polling places convenient to the Penn campus.  
They ran a strong Get-Out-The-Vote effort in  
2006 as well, and election day turnout among  
Penn students more than tripled that of the  
previous midterm elections, in 2002.

Their involvement in the larger community  
beyond the University is as laudable as their  
on-campus involvement, and is perhaps more  
extraordinary among college organizations.  
The Penn Democrats have worked hard to  
place students in local political offices. Through  
the organization's efforts in 2005, nine Penn  
students joined Philadelphia's 27th  
Ward Democratic Committee, and 20 more  
served as Inspectors or Judges of Elections.

The passion, energy, and focus of these  
students have made the Penn Democrats a  
respected institution on campus, in the local  
community, and in state and national politics.  
Politicians and candidates value invitations to  
speak at their events, not because they simply  
want good "photo ops," but because they  
know that the Penn Democrats play a mean-  
ingful role in politics and in the community.

I applaud the University of Pennsylvania  
College Democrats for their well-deserved rec-  
ognition as Chapter of the Year.

## IN OUR SEARCH FOR THE TRUTH

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam  
Speaker, in tribute of slain reporter David  
Bloom, Albert Carey Caswell, United States  
Tour Guide, penned the following poem:

"In our search for the truth, in a reporters  
quest

Running on that edge, which so separates the  
greats . . . which so leads us to the  
best

With precious life on the line, all within  
these their most heroic moments there  
in time . . . while, courageously facing  
death

"For in these their greatest gifts they give  
Here within these, our shortest of all life-  
times we live

As shall so here upon this earth, shall so  
surely show our worth . . . as shall so  
surely carry on, and forever with us  
live

"David Bloom

A man for so whom, within this his short  
lifetime . . . in our hearts, now so  
largely looms

As a true and great lesson to us all, of when  
greatness comes to call . . . of when,  
within these our short lives a heart so  
blooms

"Such a man of class, such a man of style  
Such a man as a friend, you'd but wished  
you'd known all the while . . . as why,  
within our hearts we now carry him  
the while

"Ah . . . and through that camera's eye, as  
we could so see . . . his wonderful  
warmth, his great humanity . . . that  
he carried with him the miles

"For he was such a man of integrity, one of  
such splendid grace



A man for all seasons, who but within his short lifetime . . . so surely made our world a far better place

And these are but the reasons why, we shall never forget his beautiful smile . . . his debonair, and 'oh so very handsome face

"For so surely, he was headed down that very same path

In all those magnificent footsteps, that which Edward R. Murrow once so left . . . in his aftermath

For few have so traveled, such this hallowed path . . . as why to heaven this day, we pray to our Lord to so bless David we ask

"A reporter's reporter, a real fine man's man And yet, this man for all seasons greatest assets . . . were his great warmth, and his oh so caring hand

As you could feel it, radiating through your TV set . . . as you so watched this superstar your heart he would catch, time and time again

"Oh what an innovator, oh what a truly marvelous communicator

While, in his magnificent Bloom mobile . . . we so watched his genius, courageously communicating

As he brought the light of day, and the truth into our world . . . as he so brought the proof of a heroes courage, in the darkness of a war unfurled

"But, just so too

As all of our those fine heroes too, who so gave their fine lives for us true . . . as he so did for you

Just, as each brave soldier . . . he so too . . . so heroically went into battle . . . as into hell was so sent, to bring back the truth . . . for all to view

"Yet, for all of his accomplishments

His greatest gifts, his fondest wish . . . his everything . . . was his magnificent wife & beautiful daughters to him from heaven sent

For on the day that he died, in Washington . . . The cherry blossoms bloomed high . . . as they too cried . . . knowing what his fine life had meant

"For here within our short lives, when such greatness so arrives . . . and brightly blooms

As one so surely finds, as one so surely assumes . . . is but where the greatest of all heart's so looms

For to this our world, these their most sacred gifts of which they've unfurled . . . that so ever bless our world, as we live when blossom's bloom

"For in this, Our Search For The Truth

In this a reporter's quest, To Be The Best . . . Do we dare and never second guess? And go forth with hearts full of youth

For in putting it all on the line, for in risking our most precious of all moments with our loved ones therein time . . . we so find, where lies the proof."

To David's lovely wife Melanie and his beautiful daughters Christine, Ava, and Nicole, in memory of your magnificent husband and wonderful father.

And to all reporters who have lived and died for the truth, men like Daniel Pearl.

## HONORING JACOBO AND MARY KAPILIVSKY ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jacobo and Mary Kapilivsky on their 50th wedding anniversary. Jacobo and Mary will celebrate this wonderful milestone on April 14th, 2007, after spending half a century in love with the shared experiences of family life.

The life of Jacobo and Mary is a wonderful example of the American Dream.

The son of poor Jewish immigrants, Jacobo Kapilivsky was born on June 25th, 1932 in Trujillo, Peru. Despite his humble beginnings, Jacobo graduated from medical school in his native country before marrying Mary Rosco, herself a daughter of Jewish immigrants.

Jacobo and Mary started the adventure of their life together by immigrating to the U.S., where Jacobo completed his medical residency in Johnson City, NY and later in the Bronx. Over the years, Jacobo became a surgeon as well as a medical entrepreneur both in the U.S. and in Peru, where he has founded and led several private hospitals and medical centers. Currently, they live in McAllen, Texas.

The Kapilivskys are parents to Allan and his wife Lillian, Sam and his wife Noemi, and Sara and her husband Mark. They are proud grandparents to seven grandchildren including their newest addition and first granddaughter, Leora Paz Vogel. Their children and grandchildren live in McAllen, Texas, Rochester, New York, and South Florida.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Jacobo and Mary Kapilivsky on their 50 golden years of love and dedication to each other.

## HONORING THE WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

### HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, a golden anniversary is indeed a special milestone, and today I am proud to recognize the Webster Fire Department's 50th Anniversary. This exemplary and dedicated group of firefighters continues a proud, 50-year long tradition of excellence.

As the first response team for the City of Webster, Texas, the Webster Fire Department exudes professionalism and dedication by all its firefighters in providing fire and emergency services for the community. The Webster Fire Department is responsible for fire prevention, fire suppression, and emergency medical services to the City of Webster. The Department also offers such special services as a Smoke Detector Program, Fire Extinguisher Training, and Fire Safety Training. The Webster Fire Department operates three engines, one ladder, and one rescue from two fire stations. They also operate special units such as a Wild Land Firefighting Booster Truck, a High Water Rescue 6x6, and a Water Rescue Boat.

Chief Jamie Galloway and his department will be celebrating the November anniversary

all year long. In honor of the occasion, a special patch has been designed to be featured on the firefighter's uniforms and on all department vehicles.

I am honored to represent the City of Webster and its outstanding Fire Department. Their hard work and commitment brings pride to their entire community. It is truly a privilege to stand here today in observation of the golden anniversary of the Webster Fire Department, and I ask that we submit congratulations from the 110th Congress into the RECORD.

## HONORING MARGARET "PEGGY" DATOR

### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Dator for her leadership and guidance as Executive Director of the Free Clinic of Doylestown. Margaret—known to everyone as Peggy—is a tremendous community leader. This year, in recognition of her years of volunteer service, she will be honored with the Bucks County Women's History Month Award.

Peggy has worked with young people in Girl Scouts, her church, schools, and Doylestown Hospital. It is through her efforts with these organizations that she was prepared to serve on the board of A Woman's Place, the Bucks County Children and Youth Advisory Board and the Foundations Behavioral Health Board. Peggy has also worked with the League of Women Voters in the production of a series of videos for local cable television programs addressing problems such as teen alcohol use, pregnancy and health care. She continues to serve as a consultant for the League of Women Voters on health and children's services.

Madam Speaker, there are countless stories that show Peggy's limitless spirit for helping those in need. One time, when faced with a request for equipment for a dental mission in Kenya, Peggy—as always—went above and beyond, joining the mission as a volunteer to provide a needs assessment for the community and work as a dental assistant. She is now financing an education for a Kenyan orphan.

While involved with the Warminster Collaborative, Peggy seized the opportunity to use a community gardening project to bring nutritional food to low-income homes. She has fulfilled a Spanish immersion course in order to improve bilingual assistance at the Free Clinic, and has recruited bilingual volunteers. Through her efforts, the clinic now also provides treatment for dental and mental health issues, and she has reinvigorated the help provided by A Woman's Place.

Madam Speaker, Peggy is admired for her unfailing generosity, strong leadership and advocacy for women, children, and vulnerable members of society. Peggy's efforts have improved many organizations and even more lives. Along the way, she has never failed to lose her vision of equality and justice. Her work, both in the community and around the world, is inspiring, and I am honored to recognize her for her many accomplishments.



# HONORING THE MEMORY OF JACK SMITH FRIEND OF THE FIRST DISTRICT

## HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and life of Jack Smith, a friend of the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who passed away March 15, 2007.

Jack Smith lived a life of service, entrepreneurship, and was known by all for his compassion to all those around him.

He was married to Jewell "Judy" Garland for 56 years, who preceded him in death in 2003. They had one son, two daughters, and six grand children.

Jack graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1942, with a degree in electrical engineering. He served this great nation for seven years of active duty in the U.S. Navy.

In 1954, Jack Smith started his first "Piggly Wiggly" grocery store, which would grow into a modern-day grocery store empire of 95 "Food City" stores throughout Southwest Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. He served as Chief Executive Officer until passing the torch to his son, Steven C. Smith, in 2001.

He received numerous community involvement awards through his prestigious career. Jack Smith received: 1996 Grocer of the Year, Junior Achievement Tri-Cities TN/VA Business Hall of Fame Laureate in 1999 and "The 2002 Clarence G. Adams "Great America" Award.

The "Food City" Stores engage in community enhancing programs like "Apples for the Students", which provides much needed resources to schools throughout across the First District and beyond.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me this evening in offering our sympathies to the family and friends of Jack Smith. He was a dedicated family man, a true friend of the First District, and entrepreneur.

His service is greatly treasured, and he will be deeply missed.

## HONORING GAIL RIDENHOUR

## HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Ms. Gail Ridenhour for her public service to the Germantown community.

Ms. Ridenhour has been very involved in community arts programs. Serving as president of the nonprofit Germantown Fine Arts Foundation for two years and holding other officer positions, she has been indispensable to the efforts of the Foundation to build financial support for arts programs in the local school system.

Ms. Ridenhour has been a leader in her church community as well. As a member of Kingsway Christian Church, she directed, organized, and launched a preschool program. Begun in 1987, the program continues to thrive and grow today.

In addition to her community efforts, Gail Ridenhour has been recognized by the Ger-

mantown Lions Club as their Citizen of the Year for 2006. Her experience and leadership make her an invaluable member of the Germantown community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Gail Ridenhour and congratulating her for this well-deserved award.

## TRIBUTE TO BOY SCOUT TROOP 4

## HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Boy Scout Troop 4, which celebrated its 90th anniversary this past Saturday, March 17, 2007.

Troop 4 was formed on March 17, 1917 at the Methodist Episcopal Church, now known as First United Methodist Church, in Ann Arbor, MI. This first group of scouts consisted of nine scouts, three Assistant Scout Masters and was led briefly by the direction of Scoutmaster Don Perkins, who was called in to service with U.S. involvement in WWI shortly after Troop 4's founding, and leadership of the troop then passed to Edward F. Metz. Starting with this small group, Troop 4 would go on to include over 1,700 members in its history, including 111 scouts to date, who have gone on to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. This 6.5 percent rate of Eagle Scout rank achievement is three times the national average.

Troop 4 serves as a wonderful testimonial to the leadership of the Ann Arbor community. This troop has shown tremendous community involvement in the Ann Arbor area and throughout the state of Michigan. These efforts have not been overlooked, as Troop 4 has been awarded several "Take Pride in America" awards; multiple "Keep Michigan Beautiful" awards; and was named one of President George H.W. Bush's "1000 Points of Light" for its record of volunteer community service.

Community service has long played a critical role in Troop 4's activities. As part of its community service, Troop 4 makes a monthly visit to Glacier Hills Nursing Home during the school year and Chelsea United Methodist Nursing Home during the summer. During these visits troop members play bingo and visit with residents. Each year Troop 4 participates in the "Scouting for Food" program that collects food that is then donated to local food banks. Troop 4 is a community troop with its members coming from all over the Ann Arbor area and from all religious and ethnic backgrounds; a troop where new scouts are always welcome.

Troop 4, "The Lighthouse Troop," is known throughout Michigan for its volunteer activities in the restoration of the St. Helena Island Lighthouse. For over 19 years Troop 4 members have traveled each summer to St. Helena Island where they spend a week restoring the lighthouse while camping on the island. In 2006, Grand Rapids television channel 14 highlighted their St. Helena Island service in a documentary entitled "Great Lakes Treasures." In 1991 a documentary titled "Keepers of the Light" displayed the troop's efforts to restore the lighthouse and was shown on PBS stations in Michigan. The History Channel has also broadcast their story nationally. Addition-

ally, "Scouting" and "Boy's Life" magazines among others have also featured the troop's efforts at the lighthouse.

I grew up a Boy Scout, became a Scoutmaster, and watched proudly as both my sons became Scouts. The Boy Scouts are an American institution and one of America's most patriotic organizations; they are a shining example to the world of what is good about America. I am proud to pay tribute to Troop 4 for their service, dedication and commitment to the Ann Arbor community and the state of Michigan.

## THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INVASION OF IRAQ

## HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, on November 7, 2006, the American people sent a clear message to Congress and the President: we must end the war in Iraq. In response, the administration announced it would escalate the conflict. Today we mark the fourth anniversary of President Bush's war of choice, and later this week, the House of Representatives will have to make a choice of its own: either endorse the President's open-ended commitment to the Iraq war or demand accountability and set a timeline for the phased redeployment of our troops. I am hopeful that Congress will pass a supplemental appropriations bill that will chart a new direction toward de-escalation, with a definitive date for disengagement.

The occasion of this anniversary is an appropriate time to examine the impact of these last four years of war. As we begin the fifth year of the war, the price we have paid is high—with more than 3,000 U.S. troops dead, more than 20,000 U.S. troops wounded, and more than \$400 billion of taxpayer dollars appropriated. The Iraq war is already longer than U.S. participation in World War II, World War I, the Korean War, or the Civil War.

What do we have to show for these sacrifices? Contrary to the rosy scenario depicted by the administration, this war has not made us safer; on the contrary, it has made us more vulnerable than ever. A sizeable majority of foreign policy and military experts agree that the world is a more dangerous place for Americans now than it was before we invaded Iraq. The war has become the number one recruiting tool of terrorists, and our continuing occupation of Iraq has provided them with the best training camp they could ever hope to have—a place where they can practice and refine their methods while taking American lives. The war increasingly strains our military—now creating a genuine crisis in U.S. troop readiness and our ability to respond to new threats. Should disaster strike here at home or elsewhere in the world, we will be left virtually defenseless while our troops and equipment are bogged down in a bloody quagmire that threatens to drag on for many more years.

House Democrats are bringing forward a plan that provides for a change in course on Iraq. Our plan will protect our troops on the battlefield and at home, require accountability from the Bush Administration and the Iraqi government, and set a responsible timeline for

a phased redeployment of U.S. troops—with a date certain, by August 2008 at the latest, for U.S. combat troops to be redeployed from Iraq. While I would have preferred a plan that brought the troops home even sooner, I believe that this compromise proposal is the best approach Congress can take at this time.

Adoption of the Democrats' plan would begin to answer the pleas of the American people—to turn away from the President's open-ended commitment to U.S. participation in this Iraqi civil war and instead provide a responsible, phased plan for requiring the Iraqis to take responsibility for their own future. Redeploying our armed forces does not mean "cutting and running." On the contrary, we suggest continued and extensive involvement in the region through renewed diplomacy and reconstruction that is free from fraud and abuse. This sensible path is the only one that can truly lead us to victory.

TRIBUTE TO WEBER STATE  
UNIVERSITY THEATRE ARTS

**HON. ROB BISHOP**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, the Weber State University theatre arts program in the Department of Performing Arts is known regionally and nationally for providing exceptionally high quality theatre productions. Faculty and students are serious, committed to theatre, and devoted to making theatre accessible to a diverse audience. Weber State Theatre Arts area produces a full season of plays in the remodeled and state-of-the-art Val A. Browning Center for the Performing Arts.

In recognition of Weber State University's consistently outstanding theatre program, it was invited to participate in "Shakespeare in Washington," a festival featuring a vast array of events including: theatre, music and dance, as well as films and art exhibits hosted by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts from January to June 2007.

Weber State's production of "Macbeth" was performed on March 14 and 15 in the Family Theatre at the Kennedy Center. "Macbeth" is one of the world's most well known tragedies and has been interpreted in many styles and cultures. Macbeth and his wife conspire to murder their way to the throne of Scotland, but their success is spoiled by guilt, paranoia and madness.

Because of the unique presentation, the production was edited to run close to an hour in length, requiring the director, Tracy Callahan, to spend a great deal of time editing the script without losing any of its high-voltage substance. Many know the story, but thanks to the skills of the playwright, director, cast, designers and crew, nothing is lost in the abbreviated retelling.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Theatre Arts at Weber State University, those who had a part in this stellar production, those who have traveled far to support Weber State University as well as the Weber State University Alumni in the Washington, D.C. area.

THE AUSTIN FAMILY—AMERICANS

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, each year, people enter the United States to pursue the American dream. The members of the Austin family were determined to live here and become citizens of our great Nation. On March 21, 2007, the community of Kingwood, Texas, will celebrate the fact that the Austin family—Tony, Cheryl, Ryan, and Laura—are now officially citizens of the United States of America.

Cheryl was born in Luanshya, a copper mining town in Zambia in 1951. Tony moved to Luanshya with his parents in 1953. The two met in 1968 at a Lions Club Gala Dance and were married in March 1970.

In 1973, they had two children, Ryan and Lauren. Tony had the opportunity to move his family to the United States because of the company he worked for in South Africa.

Tony was interested in coming to the United States because he often traveled to Houston for business and had the opportunity to spend time in the suburbs. Tony was awestruck by the freedom that American families enjoy as opposed to the situation his family encountered in South Africa with the deteriorating security system. Although they had a great house in a good area, they were imprisoned by the fear of robbery either at home or out on the streets.

The family arrived in Houston in January 1998. They all settled in and again it became clearer how much Ryan and Lauren had been affected by the security situation of South Africa. They were amazed at the freedom they had here.

The family obtained legal permanent resident status in May 2001, by which time they had decided that this was to be their permanent home. They then applied for citizenship in August 2006.

The Austin family is active in the community and each member is a valuable asset to our country. Cheryl has been with Continental Airlines since October 2000 and is now a Senior Recruiter. Tony is a Regional Sales Director with a national training software company. Ryan has his own business, GameForce, in Kingwood Town Center, and Lauren is a junior at the University of Houston Business School.

Although the family has had to make some adjustments, they know it is worth it because of everything they have gained by becoming U.S. citizens. Not only are they model citizens, they are incredibly patriotic and cherish the United States.

I commend the Austin family on their great achievement, congratulate them on being citizens of the great United States, and wish them the best of luck in all their future endeavors.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, on March 14, 2007, I would have voted "yea" on

Rollcall No. 153, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2007 (H.R. 985).

IN MEMORY OF STAFF SERGEANT  
JUSTIN M. ESTES

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Staff Sergeant Justin M. Estes of Sims, Arkansas; who died on March 5, 2007, fighting for our country in Iraq while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Staff Sergeant Justin Estes was 25 years old when he selflessly gave his life for his country during combat operations.

After graduating from Oden High School where he played basketball and baseball, Staff Sergeant Estes joined the Army where he would serve in South Korea, Germany, Iraq and Macedonia. Staff Sergeant Estes was a member of the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., where he was assigned to C Company, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment. He was serving his second tour of duty in Iraq.

Staff Sergeant Justin Estes gave his life to serve our country and will forever be remembered as a hero, a son and a friend. My deepest condolences go out to his mother and stepfather, Diane and John Salyers of Sims; his father and stepmother, Don and Cathy Estes of Harrodsburg, Kentucky; his two sisters, Norma and Kelli Estes; his grandparents, John and Clazina Visser and Joe Barry; and to his aunts, uncles and cousins. He will be missed by his family, his community and all those who knew him and called him a friend. I will continue to keep Staff Sergeant Justin Estes and his family in my deepest thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK NEELY

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Patrick Neely. Mr. Neely, of Neely's Bar-B-Que, located in both Memphis and in Nashville, was recently named Restaurateur of the Year by the Memphis Restaurant Association. Mr. Neely and his brothers Gaelin, Tony, and Mark have turned what was once a fledgling downtown Memphis operation into one of the most successful restaurants in the entire American South. After first opening its doors in 1988, Neely's Bar-B-Que has opened doors in two new locations and been featured nationwide in magazines and on nationally televised news and cable programs.

The Neelys have continually worked hard to ensure quality in both their food and their people, and have not forgotten about their community. Giving time, money and support to a host of charitable and not-for-profit organizations, Neely's Bar-B-Que has turned itself into a profitable, charitable, and local source of pride. It is for the hard-work, determination, and ultimate successes of Mr. Neely and his entire family that I rise, Madam Speaker, to

honor Neely's Bar-B-Que. Approaching 20 years of excellence, may Neely's continue to thrive and prosper along with the City of Memphis.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF GREGORY  
DUENAS FEJERAN

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**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 19, 2007*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise with great sorrow today to mourn the death of Guam Army National Guardsman Specialist Gregory Duenas Fejeran with the community in Guam. Greg was a 28-year-old father of two who was killed serving with a National Guard deployment in support of the Combined Joint Task Force in the Horn of Africa on March 5, 2007.

Greg Fejeran was the son of the late Gregorio P. Fejeran and Rosa D. Cruz Fejeran of the "Golo" and "Cupa" clans. He was a devoted and loving husband to Deborah Ann Cepeda Fejeran, and a protective and nurturing father of Shira and Keleko Fejeran, who knew most intimately how much he loved being in the military and who understood his duty as a serviceman. They supported him as faithfully as he supported Deborah's endeavors, Shira's dancing activities, and Keleko's sports activities.

Greg was the brother of Elizabeth T., Elizabeth U., Gregorio Jr., Barbara, Pauline, Richard, Rosalind, and Agnes. He was a son-in-law, a brother-in-law, a godson, a nephew, an uncle, a cousin; in short, Madam Speaker, he was a member of a large, extended family that deeply mourns his passing today.

According to his family, Greg loved working on cars, and enjoyed a variety of sports, with baseball being his favorite.

Madam Speaker, Sergeant Fejeran died in the service of his country and his island, and was posthumously promoted from Specialist to Sergeant for his patriotism. Servicemen and women from Guam have always been willing and ready to answer the call to arms to defend this great Nation, and we—their families, friends and neighbors—have always supported them, knowing the risk. As people of a small island community, the ties among us are very deep.

Gregory Duenas Fejeran lost his life in the noble effort to rebuild a nation in freedom so that others might some day know the joys of liberty and justice. With heavy but proud hearts, I extend heartfelt condolences and profound sympathy to Greg's family on behalf of the People of Guam and a grateful Nation. Greg was a caring son, a loving brother and friend, a devoted father, and a proud American patriot.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## MARCH 21

9 a.m.  
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine assessing the effectiveness of the current United States sanctions on Iran relating to minimizing potential threats from Iran.

SD-538

9:30 a.m.  
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
To hold hearings to examine the performance of the United States trade and food aid programs for the 2007 Farm Bill.

SR-328A

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine an overview of the Government Accountability Office assistance to Congressional oversight, focusing on past work and future challenges and opportunities.

SD-342

10 a.m.  
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
To hold hearings to examine a review of treatment, diagnosis, and monitoring efforts, focusing on the long-term health impacts from September 11.

SH-216

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the Inspector General's findings of the improper use of the National Security Letters by the Federal Bureau of Investigation relating to the misuse of the Patriot Act powers.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Consumer Affairs, Insurance, and Automotive Safety Subcommittee  
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

SR-253

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2007 for the United States Air Force.

SD-192

Armed Services

Strategic Forces Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine nuclear and strategic policy options.

SR-222

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Energy.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine Vice President Al Gore's perspective on global warming.

SD-106

Judiciary

Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine recent developments involving the security of sensitive consumer information relating to identity theft and solutions for an evolving problem.

SD-226

3 p.m.

Appropriations

Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the federal judiciary.

SD-192

5 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To receive a closed briefing relative to Gulf security.

S-407, Capitol

## MARCH 22

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the United States Southern command, Northern command, and Joint Forces command in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years defense program.

SH-216

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) modernization.

SR-253

9:45 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian housing.

SR-485

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine causes and consequences relating to mortgage market turmoil.

SD-538

Finance

To receive testimony on "Keeping America's Promise" relating to health care and child welfare services for Native Americans.

SD-215

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine ensuring safe medicines and medical devices for children.

SD-430

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine deconstructing reconstruction, focusing on problems, challenges, and the way forward in Iraq and Afghanistan.

SD-342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 236, to require reports to Congress on Federal agency use of data mining, S. 376, to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and S. 849, to promote accessibility, accountability, and openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act) and to discuss the possibility of the issuance of certain subpoenas in the connection with investigation into the replacement of U.S. attorneys.

SD-226

Appropriations

Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for military construction.

SD-124

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Ford M. Fraker, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Business meeting to markup the Supplemental Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2007.

SD-106

Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on the detention and judicial capacity in Iraq.

S-407, Capitol

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the "Future of Coal" report recently published by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

SD-366

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine a review of the Merit Systems Protection Board and the Office of the Special Counsel, focusing on the safeguarding of the merit systems principles in preparation for the consideration of the reauthorization of the two agencies.

SD-342

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## MARCH 26

2 p.m.

Armed Services

Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee

To receive a briefing on the reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for policy.

SR-232A

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the progress of the European Union's Emissions Trading Scheme and to receive information on lessons learned for policymakers who want to better understand how a market-based trading program could operate efficiently and effectively in the United States.

SD-G50

Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for mind, brain and behavioral research at the National Institutes of Health. SD-116	10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold hearings to examine competition and consumer choice relating to exclusive sports programming. SR-253	9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of AMVETS, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Gold Star Wives of America, Fleet Reserve Association, the Retired Enlisted Association, Military Officers Association of America, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs. SD-106
2:30 p.m. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine a review of the Real ID Act of 2005 and the proposed regulations released by the Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2006, implementing Act, focusing on efforts to secure drivers' licenses and identification cards. SD-342	MARCH 28 9:45 a.m. Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of Labor. SD-124	APRIL 10 10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). SR-253
3 p.m. Judiciary Human Rights and the Law Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the problem of human trafficking and the legal options to stop the problem. SD-226	10 a.m. Commerce, Science, and Transportation Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine the future of the Coast Guard Dive Program. SR-253	APRIL 11 9:30 a.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold hearings to examine issues relative to Filipino veterans. SR-418
MARCH 27 9:30 a.m. Armed Services To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Claude M. Kicklighter, of Georgia, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense, James R. Clapper, Jr., of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, and S. Ward Casscells, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. SH-216	2:30 p.m. Appropriations Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for United States Forest Service. SD-124	10 a.m. Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs To hold hearings to examine the availability and affordability of property and casualty insurance in the Gulf Coast and other coastal regions. SD-538
Judiciary To hold oversight hearings to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation. SD-106	Commerce, Science, and Transportation Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies Subcommittee To hold hearings to examine transitioning to a next generation Human Space Flight System. SR-253	APRIL 17 10 a.m. Judiciary To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Justice. SD-106
Veterans' Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense cooperation and collaboration, focusing on health care issues. SR-418	MARCH 29 9:15 a.m. Indian Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian trust fund litigation. SR-485	APRIL 25 2 p.m. Veterans' Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on mental health issues. SR-418